

# GO HUNT Hawai'i

CONNECTING HUNTERS  
& RESOURCE MANAGERS

Photo: Brian Howell

This is the third edition of Go Hunt Hawai'i, a quarterly newsletter to connect hunters and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW). [Sign up](#) to stay up to date on announcements, Game Management Advisory Commission meeting dates, changes to hunting areas, and more.

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## Bringing Hunting to our Keiki

This edition we're sharing stories from participants in our Youth Hunting programs. Many of our hunting seasons have weekends set aside to allow young people the opportunity to experience a hunt. Youth hunters must be 15 years or younger (HAR 13-123-2) on the date of the hunt, possess a valid 2017-18 State of Hawai'i hunting license and be accompanied by a non-hunting adult (18 years or older) who also possesses a valid hunting license. Youth hunters must submit an application to participate in this hunt. For more information, please contact Shane De Mattos of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife [here](#).

### LANA'I MOUFLON HUNT



"This year's 2017 Mouflon youth hunt was met with beautiful weather, sunny skies, and stiff trade winds. Not unusual for Lana'i Island. This hunt included my wife, daughters Naiya, Alexis, and me. The girls are fourth generation hunters from family from Lana'i.

After a late start we parked the truck down Keone trail and split the crew. I took Naiya to an area overlooking a valley/ridge. We set ourselves up and waited. Shortly after, a herd of mouflon was pushed by shots going off a ridge away and toward us. Ten minutes later at 211 yards, Naiya harvested her first ram, not a big one but she was ecstatic. We prepared her harvest and headed back to the city to clean the meat at Unco's house. We finished the morning hunt with ono grinds from Blue Ginger.

Later in the early evening, Naiya and I headed toward Kaena to another spot that I've never hunted before. We parked the truck and set ourselves up with the radiant sun at our backs.

As soon as we got settled, two ewes suddenly spooked from their bedding and in an instant this old ewe was taken with an excellent shot from 80 yards.

I'm constantly proud of my girls who are learning the ways of providing for our family and the importance of conservation both on land and sea. For me, it's my time to bond with them and enjoy the peacefully quiet outdoors. When there's no shooting of course."

— Isaac Raphael



## YOUTH HUNT EDITION

"Being from the big island of Hawai'i, public land hunting as a whole is limited. Having two sons, I started looking for other opportunities to take them hunting. I'd heard of the Lottery hunts on the island of Lana'i but thought it was too much of a hassle.

Since then I have been invited to several muzzleloader hunts with Brad Lung, Jr. and decided to take my eldest son on the youth rifle hunt that Lana'i has to offer. With the help of Brad finding us a vehicle and house to rent it was just a hassle-free experience. From getting our tags, to directions navigating the island, it was easy with the help of Melanie Bandalan of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife putting

in long hours to ensure we all had fun on this hunt. My son, Jr., had three tags and two days to fill them. He actually filled the polled ram first, then the ewe and finally a ram on the second day. He had many opportunities and countless stalks to hone his skills that would take years to do on any other hunt Hawai'i has to offer. In my opinion Lana'i has the best opportunities for public hunting mouflon sheep and axis deer for youth and adults with archery, muzzleloader and rifle.

We are already looking forward to next year! Thank you to everyone who made this public hunt possible."

— Kalsey Nacis



# Announcements

## O'AHU

### HUNTING & FISHING DAY 2017

On September 16 and 17, the Hawai'i Hunter Education Program hosted Hunting and Fishing Day events at Koko Head Shooting Complex. The event sought to promote safe hunting, shooting and fishing activities while donating proceeds to an organization in need.

Over 1,400lbs of canned foods, along with over \$4,500 in cash, were donated to Hawai'i Food Bank. Mahalo to all the clubs who provided activities, and families who participated!



## LANA'I

### AXIS DEER SEASON

Dates for the Lana'i Axis Deer Season have been announced.

The application deadline for all hunts will be **4:00 p.m. Friday, November 3, 2017.**

***For season length, bag limits, and other information for all hunts, please see Title 13, Chapter 123, "Rules Regulating Game Mammal Hunting".***



For future announcements and news, please [SIGN UP HERE](#)

DO YOU HAVE PICTURES OF HUNTING ON PUBLIC LANDS?

We're looking for hunting activities, game animals & landscapes to be featured in future newsletters/online.

Please email us at [huntinghawaii@hawaii.gov](mailto:huntinghawaii@hawaii.gov)